GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:109
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2000
ACCUMULATION OF SPARE PARTS IN DEFENCE WAREHOUSES
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Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the spare parts worth crores of rupees are accumulated in defence warehouses;

(b) if so, the details of such spare parts, their value and their origin;

(c) the amount derived out of the sale of these spare parts; and

(d) the steps taken to ensure that the stock of spare parts is used first before ordering for fresh lots?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.109 FOR 2.3.2000.

The Armed Forces, Ordnance Factories and the Defence Public Sector Undertakings carry a large inventory of spares and components running into several lakh categories for the diverse range of equipment, weapons and weapon systems. While these stocks of spares are required for meeting the requirements of the Armed Forces for maintenance of the equipment and their repair and overhaul, a fair number of spares also remain in stock as 'insurance' spares. By their very concept, insurance spares like gear boxes, propellers and shafts are specific to a platform/ship which if the contingency of the breakdown does not arise during its life time, would automatically become surplus. The inventory of spares held in the Armed Forces is, need based, as the requirement of spares for Armed Forces is worked out in a scientific manner, through the Annual Provisioning Reviews after taking into account the recommendations of the manufacturers, consumption/movement pattern of spares, existing stocks, dues in and other relevant factors. However, even a minor variation in the consumption pattern is likely to result in some over or under provisioning, notwithstanding the most scientific provisioning exercise. Such deviations in consumption pattern are taken into account in the next provisioning Reviews. However, some spares which account for a fraction of the total inventory are declared surplus to the requirements of the Services at the end of their shelf/technical life or on account of technology obsolescence and are disposed of accordingly.

The Army has undertaken the "Computerised Inventory Control Project", a pilot project for online inventory system to computerise its inventory. The Navy has automated its entire procurement process through the creation of a Wide Area Network (WAN) - Integrated Logistics Management Systems (ILMS).Similarly the Indian Air Force has initiated Project 'Inventory Material Management On-Line (IMMOLS)'.On completion of these projects, the Defence Services would have computerised the entire inventory of spares with the attendant economies and efficiency.